

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 01501 161918Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----161922Z 065832 /56
O 161846Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2237

S E C R E T USNATO 1501

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN; DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO
DEFENSE FOR ASD(ISA) MCAULIFFE

FROM AMBASSADOR STRAUSSZ-HUPE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, AWACS
SUBJECT: NATO AEW

REF: USNATO 1500 DTG 161840Z MAR 77

1. PARAS 7 THROUGH 9 OF THE REFERENCE TELEGRAM DESCRIBE
HOW LUNS REVEALED TO PERMREPS ON MARCH 16 THAT HE HAD
INFORMATION INDICATING THAT THE CURRENT BROWN-LEBER MEETING
IN WASHINGTON MIGHT BE ADDRESSING THE SUBJECT OF A FALLBACK
POSITION ON NATO AEW. SINCE HE APPARENTLY RECEIVED HIS
INFORMATION FROM HILL-NORTON, LUNS MAY ALSO KNOW THE DE-
TAILS OF SUCH A POSSIBLE OR PROPOSED FALLBACK.

2. YOU WILL, I KNOW, UNDERSTAND FULLY THE AWKWARD EFFECT
OF THIS DEVELOPMENT ON THE PRIVATE NATO AEW RELATIONSHIP
THAT AMBASSADOR PAULS AND I ESTABLISHED SEVERAL WEEKS AGO
AT YOUR DIRECTION. CERTAINLY I HAVE RECEIVED NO OFFI-
CIAL WARNING THAT SOMETHING NEW AND DIFFERENT ON NATO
AEW WAS MOVING TO HIGH LEVELS FOR CONSIDERATION. IF I
SECRET

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HAD, PAULS AND I MIGHT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO WORK OUT A
JOINT APPROACH TO LUNS THAT WOULD HAVE DEFUSED HIM. AS
IT WAS, I COULD ONLY
TRY DISCOURAGING LUNS FROM RAISING THE SUBJECT ON
THE GENERAL GROUND THAT IT WOULD BE BEST TO AWAIT THE
OUTCOME OF THE BROWN-LEBER TALKS.

3. I KNOW THAT YOU WILL LET ME HAVE THE DETAILED OUT-
COME OF THE BROWN-LEBER DISCUSSION OF NATO AEW AS SOON
AS YOU CAN, SO THAT THE ALLIES HERE WILL FEEL THAT THEY

ARE HEARING ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS IN A WAY THAT SHOWS THE
UNITED STATES IS BEARING MIND THEIR INTERESTS AND
RIGHTS AS ALLIES.

4. LUNS' "LEAK" BY ITSELF WILL NOT KILL AEW, BUT IT STRIKES
ME AS ESPECIALLY UNFORTUNATE FOR IT TO HAVE OCCURRED
PRIOR TO THE BEGINNING OF THE SECOND DAY OF THE CONVER-
SATIONS BETWEEN MINISTER LEBER AND SECRETARY BROWN.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 30-Aug-1999 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NATO001501
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: n/a
Format: TEL
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197703110/baaabciv.tel
Line Count: 67
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: bb9b01b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: USNATO 1500 DTG 161840Z MAR 77
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2962741
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATO AEW
TAGS: NATO, AWACS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bb9b01b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009